



PLAC 2025 FALL CONFERENCE
Stein Eriksen Lodge – Park City, UT
October 15-17, 2025

Thursday, October 16

7:30am – 5:00pm

REGISTRATION

7:30am – 8:25am

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

7:30am – 8:25am

INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLE BREAKFASTS

Join other in-house and outside counsel for breakfast and an informal discussion on industry topics. PLAC's Automotive, HLth and Heavy Equipment groups will all be hosting individual breakfast meetings – all are welcome.

8:30am – 8:45am

WELCOME & ANNUAL MEETING

Thomas N. Vanderford, Jr., Esq.

Hyundai Motor America

Chair, PLAC Board of Directors

Kimberly J. Condon

Executive Director

Product Liability Advisory Council, Inc.

Kaitlyn Stone, Esq.

Barnes & Thornburg LLP

Conference Planning Chair

8:45am – 9:45am

SUPREME COURT UPDATE

Mark C. Fleming, Esq.

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

9:45am – 10:45am

VALUE IN THE INVERSE PERSPECTIVE: *Lessons for Litigation Leaders from Mid-Level In-House Counsel and Litigators Regarding Effective Leadership, Succession Planning, Litigation Management, and Mentorship*

Scholastica Baker, Esq.

Senior Litigation Counsel

McDonald's Corporation

Jessica Lam, Esq.

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Deborah Lempogo, Esq.

Senior Litigation Counsel
Andritz, Inc.

Michael Preciado, Esq.
Senior Counsel, Product Integrity & Defense
Rivian

Kyle Robertson, Esq.
Assistant General Counsel
U-Haul International, Inc.

Kaitlyn Stone, Esq. – Moderator
Barnes & Thornburg LLP

10:45am – 10:50am

BREAK

10:50am – 11:40am

THE COSTS OF PAIN: Lessons Learned in the Wake of the Opioid Crisis

Steve Brody, Esq.
O'Melveny & Myers LLP

John P. Lavelle, Jr., Esq.
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

Tariq Naeem, Esq.
Tucker Ellis LLP

John Schneider, Ph.D.
CEO & Principal
Avalon Health Economics

11:40pm – Noon

PUBLIC NUISANCE STATUS UPDATE

Mark A. Behrens, Esq.
Shook Hardy & Bacon, LLP

Shannan Goss, Esq.
Senior Counsel – Litigation
Exxon Mobil Corporation

Noon– 1:20pm

LUNCH

1:05pm – 2:05pm

MANAGING HIGH RISK LITIGATION – AN IN-HOUSE PERSPECTIVE

Brad Lerman, Esq.
General Counsel
Starbucks Coffee Co.

Connie A. Matteo, Esq.
Assistant General Counsel
Pfizer Inc.

Norman Pentelovitch, Esq.
Director, Assistant General Counsel, Enterprise Risk Management – Litigation
3M

Vaughn K. Schultz, Esq.

Senior Counsel – Litigation
Exxon Mobil Corporation

2:05pm – 3:05pm

TRYING HIGH RISK LITIGATION

Heidi K. Hubbard, Esq.
Williams & Connolly, LLP

Paul Malek, Esq.
Huie, Fernambucq & Stewart, LLP

Beth A. Wilkinson, Esq.
Wilkinson Stekloff

Larissa Eustice, Esq. – Moderator
Senior Assistant General Counsel
Bayer Corporation

3:05pm – 3:15pm

BREAK

3:15pm – 3:45pm

STATISTICAL TESTIMONY IN THE COURTROOM: A Layperson's Guide

Jonathan Judge, Esq.
ArentFox Schiff

3:45pm – 4:15pm

THE WAY FORWARD: Lessons from 43 Years on the Front Lines

Christopher Spencer, Esq.
The Product Liability Consultancy

4:15pm – 5:00pm

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Scholastica Baker, Esq.
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McDonald's Corporation

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Assistant General Counsel
U-Haul International, Inc.

Kaitlyn Stone, Esq. – Moderator
Barnes & Thornburg LLP

6:00pm – 7:00pm

RECEPTION

7:00pm

DINNER

Friday, October 17

8:00am – 9:00am

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:00am – 8:55am

CORPORATE COUNSEL ROUNDTABLE BREAKFAST

Gather with other in-house attorneys to network and discuss current trends and cross-industry hot topics. All corporate counsel are invited to attend.

9:00am – 9:45am

ADAS HOT TOPICS

Marc Carlton, Esq.

Daimler Truck North America LLC

Erinn D. DePorre, Esq.

Vice President and Legal Counsel, Auto, Data & Employment Legal Team
Qualcomm Technologies, Inc.

Ryan Harrington, M.E.

Corporate Vice President and Principal
Exponent

Ryan A. Polkowski, Esq.

Assistant General Counsel
Waymo

John F. “Franklin” Sacha, Jr., Esq. – Moderator

King & Spalding LLP

9:45am – 10:20am

REGULATORY LANDSCAPES IN A NEW ERA

Kimberly Bush, Esq.

Associate General Counsel for North America
BIC Corporation

Amanda J. Klingler, Esq.

King & Spalding LLP

Andrea B. Looney, Esq.

Senior Director, U.S. Government Affairs
Medtronic

10:20am – 10:30am

BREAK

10:30am – 11:00am

TORT REFORM TODAY

Mark A. Behrens, Esq.

Shook Hardy & Bacon, LLP

Sherman “Tiger” Joyce, Esq.

Executive Director
The American Tort Reform Association

Thomas N. Vanderford, Jr., Esq.
Associate General Counsel and Executive Director
Hyundai Motor America

11:00am – Noon

WHEN ONE STANDS FOR MANY: ETHICAL ISSUES IN CLASS ACTION DEFENSE

D. Matthew Allen, Esq.

Carlton Fields

Mark R. Galdieri, Esq.

Counsel, Commercial Litigation

Kenvue, Inc.

1:30pm – 4:30pm

GUIDED MOUNTAIN HIKE (*separate registration required*)

1:30pm – 6:30pm

FLY FISHING (*separate registration required*)

2:00pm – 4:00pm

HIGH WEST DISTILLERY TOUR (*separate registration required*)